

Erin O'Connell
Project Scientist



Expertise

- Field work skills, including collecting of soil samples and evaluating field site conditions
- Lab and communication skills, including extraction of lead from samples consistent with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines and compilation of vegetation and wetland-boundary data into reports
- Research skills, including in-field and remote research, historical document compilation, regulatory document compilation, and document analysis and summary
- Project management skills including financial and budget tracking, schedule development and management, client communication and coordination, and resource management

Summary

Ms. O'Connell is a project scientist and project manager with experience in environmental investigations, remediation, and litigation projects. She has expertise in preparing technical deliverables, including evidence summary memorandums, sampling and analysis plans, and health and safety plans. She has conducted historical and property research in association with due diligence and litigation support; identified contaminant sources and pathways; and designed, planned, and managed stormwater sampling field activities for urban and industrial properties.

Professional Experience

Technical Support of Cost Allocation (2014–Ongoing)

Confidential Client, Seattle, Washington

TIG Environmental provides expert technical support to a private property owner participating in a Superfund site allocation. The Superfund sediment site consists of five miles of an urban and industrial estuarine waterway. Working with the property owner's attorney, TIG Environmental evaluated potential sources of PCB contamination in sediments adjacent to the property and developed an allocation strategy based on forensic chemistry and sediment transport modeling.

Ms. O'Connell is a part of the technical team and provides research support to assist in the identification of potential sources of PCB contamination, as well as allocation strategy. Since 2021, Ms. O'Connell has served as the project manager for the project by managing resources, schedule, budget, financial tracking, and client communications for the overall scope of work.

South Park Marina Remedial Action (2017–Ongoing)

South Park Marina Limited Partnership, Seattle, Washington

TIG Environmental assists the owner of a recreational marina site in the South Park neighborhood of Seattle, Washington. This site is the subject of remedial action under a Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Administered Agreed Order. Soil and groundwater at the site are contaminated with PCBs, petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, pesticides, and metals requiring cleanup under the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). TIG Environmental's work includes investigating of historical sources of contamination both on-site and nearby off-site. As a result, TIG Environmental identified and nominated additional potentially liable persons (PLPs) for release(s) of hazardous materials affecting the site to Ecology. These PLPs are now involved as participants under the Agreed Order. TIG Environmental, on behalf of South Park Marina Limited Partnership, and the other PLPs are working in partnership to oversee the completion of the tasks required to be performed under the Agreed Order, including a remedial investigation (RI) work plan, RI

Erin O'Connell
Project Scientist



field activities, a source control evaluation, and a RI Report. TIG Environmental completed several source control, RI, feasibility study (FS), and preliminary engineering design tasks supportive of efforts under the current Agreed Order and/or future formal program designations.

Since 2019, Ms. O'Connell has served on the technical team conducting detailed analysis of site operations and stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to assist the client in adhering to the chemical effluent limitations outlined in the state stormwater pollution prevention permit. Since 2021, Ms. O'Connell has served as the project manager for the project by managing resources, schedule, budget, financial tracking, and client communications for the overall scope of work.

Expert Consultant for Sediment and Uplands Cleanup Cost Allocation (2019–Ongoing)

Confidential Client, New York

TIG Environmental provides litigation support to a private client participating in a Superfund site allocation. The site includes nearly two miles of waterway in a heavily industrialized area of New York state. Contamination at the site includes polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other chemicals, but PCBs are the primary chemicals of concern. After an initial remedial design phase was completed, regulatory agencies required additional investigation of the study area. Findings from the investigation increased the estimated remedial cost nearly seven-fold. The client retained TIG Environmental's services for potentially responsible party (PRP) identification and investigation, sampling and data analysis, and expert witness testimony for anticipated cost allocation for remediation of sediments. Since 2019, TIG Environmental evaluated and investigated documents for PRP sites to gather evidence of historical releases related to operations, developed a conceptual site model of the relationships between PRP operations and the contaminated waterway, conducted soil and sediment sampling, and completed forensic data analysis to identify sources of PCB contamination. TIG Environmental also provided and continues to maintain data visualization tools to assist the client in strengthening the connection between contamination in the waterway and adjacent PRPs, identifying PRPs that may not be responsible for contamination, and identifying additional discharge points that may be associated with additional PRPs.

Ms. O'Connell is a member of the technical team that conducted detailed analysis of historical regulatory and remedial documentation for sites within an industrialized area of New York. This analysis of priority sites has helped to delineate the extent of contamination in the area and will assist in future cost allocation and liability assessments.

Erin O'Connell
Project Scientist



Technical Consultant for Environmental Liability Assessment (2019–Ongoing)

Confidential Client, California

TIG Environmental is providing its client technical expert support for environmental liability assessment at the San Fernando Valley Superfund Site. TIG Environmental is investigating PRPs relevant to contaminant discharges to groundwater at the site. In addition, TIG Environmental is assessing and prioritizing all PRPs at the site. To support these efforts, TIG Environmental is identifying and reviewing relevant historical, technical, remediation, regulatory, and prior PRP investigation documentation and investigating operations in the area of the site associated with the client. TIG Environmental is producing documentation summarizing its findings and identifying high-priority PRPs and sites associated with priority contaminants that may warrant elevating those PRP cases to regulatory agencies. Findings from this investigation and review are anticipated to support future cost allocation for remediation at the site.

Ms. O'Connell has served as the primary researcher for the environmental liability assessment and PRP investigation. She has identified and reviewed digital and physical documents and conducted a detailed analysis of large amounts of historical information and data. The findings of this research were compiled into documents that identify high-priority PRPs to support future cost allocation and remediation efforts.

Technical Consultation and Allocation/Litigation Support (2019–Ongoing)

Confidential Client, Multnomah County, Oregon

TIG Environmental provides technical expert support for environmental liability assessment and cost allocation for the remediation of sediments in the Portland Harbor Superfund Site, and for the associated Natural Resource Damages claims. The harbor has been the site of numerous industrial and manufacturing operations for more than a century, including shipbuilding, petroleum storage and distribution, metal salvaging, and electrical power generation. Technical support for this project includes research, sampling, and forensic analysis to determine the specific contaminants associated with activities or facilities. The project also includes evaluating potential historical contaminant sources, determining contaminant fate and transport, and chemical fingerprinting polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and PCBs.

Since 2019, Ms. O'Connell has served on the technical team conducting detailed analysis of environmental documents, lease agreements, deed transfers, and historical photographs. The findings of this research have been summarized in reports that evaluate the potential relationship between activities conducted on sites of interest and contamination in Portland Harbor. She has also served as task manager by coordinating and managing resources, budget, and schedule for discrete pieces of the overall scope of work.

Technical Consultation and Litigation Support (1999–Ongoing)

Confidential Client, New Jersey

TIG Environmental provides technical and litigation support for environmental liability assessment related to sediment remediation in the Newark Bay Study Area (NBSA) - a large Superfund bay estuary complex, part of the larger New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary. The area hydraulically connects to

Erin O’Connell
Project Scientist



the Passaic River Superfund Site and includes portions of the Hackensack River, Arthur Kill, and Kill van Kull. TIG Environmental performs investigative services including the acquisition and evaluation of historical records, conducting witness testimony, assessing environmental data, and preparing technical reports for identification and assessment of PRPs associated with the site. TIG Environmental develops deliverables providing detailed information regarding direct and/or indirect discharges to the NBSA from industrial, manufacturing, commercial, public works, and other potential sources. TIG Environmental personnel provided technical support on the remedial investigation and feasibility studies (RI/FS) activities on the NBSA. Such support included identifying and characterizing stormwater and combined sewer overflows that have affected sediments in the NBSA. TIG Environmental also acquired, compiled and evaluated information on publicly owned treatment works (POTWs), including their upstream collection system networks and their role as potential contaminant sources.

Since 2019, Ms. O’Connell has served on the technical team conducting detailed analysis of historical records, primary witness testimony, environmental data, and technical reports. The findings of this research are being summarized in reports that evaluate the potential relationship between activities conducted on sites of interest and contamination in the larger New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary and the Passaic River Superfund Site.

California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) Data and GIS Intern (2017–2019)

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Los Osos, CA

Ms. O’Connell worked on a variety of tasks, including compiling watershed, soil, and vegetation data on a team creating a Vegetation Management Plan; creating data for the City of Santa Maria in county road data for use in resource dispatching; digitizing building information in Carpinteria and Montecito for use during the Thomas Fire; and updating and verified symbology and labeling in county pre-fire attack plans in ArcGIS Pro.

**Academic
Qualifications**

BS in Environmental Earth and Soil Sciences, California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, 2018

**Professional
Training**

- 40-Hour OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations (HAZWOPER) Safety Training
- 8-hour OSHA Site Supervisor Safety Training
- CPR and First Aid Training